

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH GOVERNOR

January 2006

GREETINGS

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to join the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois State Board of Elections in inviting you to participate in the **Mock Election 2006**.

One of our basic rights as citizens of the United States is the privilege to elect our leaders. This is a right that should always be taken seriously, and never taken for granted. Mock elections such as these afford students with the opportunity to be exposed to the democratic process at an early age to better prepare them for when they become eligible to vote. In addition, mock elections do much to help inform students about the important issues that make up an election, and the different thoughts and views of each individual candidate.

This Mock Election will be a wonderful chance for you to learn about the democratic process and become involved in making a difference in your communities. I hope you will join us for this exciting event.

Sincerely,

Rod R. Blagojevich Governor